

HAMPTON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a scheduled meeting of the Parish Council held on
Tuesday 7th January 2020 at 19.30 pm in the Village Hall**

Present:

Councillors: Steve Hunt (Chairman), Mark Frankland, Julia Pearson, Chris Plant & Jamie Rogers.

In attendance: Parish Clerk – Lynda Wilcox. Eight local residents.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Susan Marr.
2. **Co-option of a councillor to fill the vacancy**
 - 2.1 It was RESOLVED to co-opt Val Watson as a parish councillor. Mrs Watson completed her acceptance of office form and joined the other councillors around the table.
3. **Declarations of interest & written requests for dispensation:** There were none.
4. **Open Session**
 - 4.1 A brief verbal report from Ward Councillor John Hardwick included:
 - 4.1.1 The new council administration was working effectively.
 - 4.1.2 A decision on the future of the proposed by-pass would be made in June or July. Some measures were not in place and the western bypass on its own would not solve the traffic problems. Had the bypass gone ahead as originally planned, it would probably have taken seven or so years anyway.
 - 4.1.3 Phosphate levels had failed in the Lugg catchment area which meant that housing development north of Hereford had been stopped.
 - 4.1.4 Parking facilities at Mordiford School would be started in around six weeks' time, weather permitting.
 - 4.2 Views of local residents on parish matters included:
 - 4.2.1 In response to a query from a local resident as to whether the bypass review was based on money or land supply, Councillor Hardwick commented that the review was to find the best solution to deal with traffic congestion within Hereford City and the climate emergency needed to be taken into account. The resident commented that the decision on the bypass had preceded the Kyoto climate discussions.
 - 4.2.2 In response to a query as to whether development would be in the east if the bypass route went that way, Councillor Hardwick commented that was not necessarily so
5. **Minutes of the previous meeting ... 17.10.19.**

It was RESOLVED to adopt the minutes as a true record and they were signed by the Chairman.
6. **Village Maintenance**

It was RESOLVED to pay the Village Contractor for November 2019 in the sum of £115.50.
7. **Play Area**
 - 7.1 To consider items reported by parish council volunteer inspector.
 - 7.2 Grant opportunities for new equipment ... It was RESOLVED that the clerk should keep herself aware of grant opportunities for new play equipment as and when they became available.
8. **Footpaths ...** Footpaths Officer, Jayne Frankland, gave a brief verbal report.

9. Finance ... to consider the following:

- 9.1 Bank balances were noted as £77,234.08.
- 9.2 Payment of the clerk's November & December salaries was noted.
- 9.3 Payment of £153.00 due to HMRC was noted.
- 9.4 It was RESOLVED to pay the quarterly invoice from Autela Payroll Services in the sum of £47.08.
- 9.5 2020/21 Precept ... Members considered the draft budget prepared by the clerk and it was RESOLVED to set the precept at £17,500.00 in line with the budget.
- 9.6 The clerk would explore investment opportunities for some of the parish council reserves.

10. Village Hall

Members considered a grant towards grass-cutting around the Village Hall for 2019/2020 and it was RESOLVED to make a grant of £450.00.

11. Planning ... Comments on applications for determination by Herefordshire Council:

It was RESOLVED to support all the following planning applications.

- 11.1 Environment Agency applications for hedgerow removal:
 - 11.1.1 Land near Minstrel Court: P194307/H & P194308/H & P194309/H.
 - 11.1.2 Land near The Holt: P194305/H.
 - 11.1.3 Land adjacent to Colcombe House: P194298/H & P194299/H & P194302/H & P194303/H & P194304/H. Land near Colcombe House: P194288/H.
 - 11.1.4 Land south of B4224 road between Hampton Bishop and Hereford: P194286/H.
- 11.2 Environment Agency applications for tree works:
 - 11.2.1 Land west of The Stank – App: 194165 ... Works to Oak (T1) – crown lift.
 - 11.2.2 Land on the South side of the B4224 – App: 194216 Fell five Sycamores.
- 11.3 App: 194166 ... Fell Norway Maple (T1) – outgrown situation.

12. Offer of free delivery of one tonne of salt for grit bins

It was RESOLVED not to access the above offer from Balfour Beatty.

13. Information item

Members noted the Police advice concerning scams involving the elderly.

14. Items raised for the next meeting on 26th March 2020 ... There were none.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.00

SIGNED DATE 28th May 2020